the total amount outstanding under education loan in Uttaranchal was Rs. 53.53 crore in 3825 accounts as on the last reporting Friday of March 2005.

Exemption of mega power projects from custom levies

3248. SHRI JANARADHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Mega Power Projects' are exempted from customs and Central excise levies;

(b) if so, the details with number of Central and State Governments' 'Mega Projects' enjoying such concessions, State-wise;

(c) whether State Government of Karnataka has requested to declare its 500 MW thermal station at Bellary as a 'Mega Project';

(d) if so, the details thereof and Centre's reaction thereto;

(e) whether Government have identified Tadri, Dist. Uttara Kannada, Karnataka, as one of the sites for development of five Ultra Mega Power Projects with 4000 MW and above capacity in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Mega Power Projects are fully exempt from customs duty, CVD and additional customs duty. If goods for Mega Power Projects are supplied against International Competitive Bidding (ICB), they are exempted from excise duty.

(b) State-wise statement showing projects certified as mega power projects is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per information provided by Ministry of Power, Government of Karnataka had requested Government of India to accord mega power projects status to its 500 MW power station at Bellary. As the said project did not meet the minimum threshold qualifying limit as provided in the mega power policy, which is 1000 MW in case of thermal power projects and 500 MW in case of hydel projects, Government was unable to accord mega power project status to the project.

(e) and (f) As per information provided by Ministry of Power, Tadri near Karwar in Uttar Kannada District of Karnataka has been identified, by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in consultation with Government of Karnataka, for development of an integrated coastal power project of 4000 MW with scope of expansion. Expression of Interest in respect of this project was invited on 10.3.2006 and some companies have submitted their papers. Before notification for request for locations in respect of the project, the State Government is to resolve issues related to availability of required land, feasibility of development of port in the area, etc.

Statement

Projects-Certified Mega Status

Sl. No.	Project	Capacity (MW)	Location	Cost Estimates (Rs. crs)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
Orissa					
1.	Talcher-II@ (since commissioned)	4x500	Distt. Angul, Orissa	6648.83 (1997)$	NTPC
Uttar Pradesh					
2.	Rihand-II@ (Partly Commissioned)	2x500	Distt. Sonebhadra, UP	3451.97 (1998)	NTPC
Madhya Pradesh					
3.	Vindhyachal-III*	2x500	Distt. Sidhi, MP	4201.50 (2001)	NTPC
Chhattisgarh					
4.	Sipat-I*	3x660	Distt. Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	8323.39 (2003)	NTPC
5.	Sipat-II*	2x500	Distt. Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	4039.67 (2003)	NTPC
6.	Raigarh TPP	1000	Chhattisgarh	2412	Private Sector
Bihar					
7.	Kahalgaon-II* Phase-I	2x500	Distt. Bhagalpur, Bihar	4002.28 (2002)	NTP C

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Kahalgaon-II* Phase-II	1x500	Distt. Bhagalpur, Bihar	1866.10 (2003)	NTPC
9.	Barh*	3x660	Distt. Patna, Bihar	8692.97 (2004)	NTPC
Gujarat					
10.	Jhanor Gandhar CCPP-II**	1300	Distt. Bharuch, Gujarat	4371.39 (2004)	NTPC
11.	Kawas CCPP-II**	1300	Distt. Surat, Gujarat	3329.56 (2004)	NTPC
12.	Akhakhol GBPP	1000+	Gujarat	3256	Private sector
Himachal Pradesh					
13.	Koldam*	800	Distt. Bilaspur, HP	4527.15 (2001)	NTPC
14.	Parbati-II	4x200	Himachal Pradesh	3919.59	NHPC
Jharkhand					
15.	North Karanpura STPP**	2000	Jharkhand	9477.75 (2005)	NTPC
16.	Maithon TPP	1000	Jharkhand	4200 (2003)	DVC
Sikkim					
17.	Teesta-V	3x170	Sikkim	2198.04 (1999)	NHPC
Arunachal Pradesh					
18.	Nubansiri lower	8x250	Arunachal Pradesh	6285.33 (2002)	NHPC
West Bengal					
19.	Purulia Pump Storage Hydel Project	900	West Bengal	N.A.	State sector

$ Accorded in-principle mega status;

* Completed projects;

** Projects under formulation.